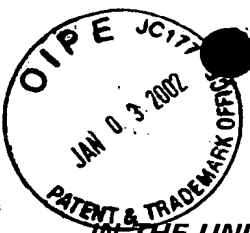


#2
TID.
03/15/02



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE



Applicant: Yushi NIWA
Title: DATA DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM
Appl. No.: 09/978,539
Filing Date: October 18, 2001
Examiner: Unknown
Art Unit: 2131

RECEIVED
JAN 07 2002
Group 2100

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 CFR §1.56

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Submitted herewith on Form PTO-1449 is a listing of documents known to Applicant in order to comply with Applicant's duty of disclosure pursuant to 37 CFR §1.56. A copy of each listed document is being submitted to comply with the provisions of 37 CFR §1.97 and §1.98.

The submission of any document herewith, which is not a statutory bar, is not intended as an admission that such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application or that such document is considered material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR §1.56(b). Applicant does not waive any rights to take any action which would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove as a competent reference any document which is determined to be a *prima facie* art reference against the claims of the present application.

TIMING OF THE DISCLOSURE

The listed documents are being submitted in compliance with 37 CFR §1.97(b), within three (3) months of the filing date of the application.

RELEVANCE OF EACH DOCUMENT

The relevance of the foreign-language documents is described in the present specification. English translations of the foreign-language documents are not readily available. However, the absence of such translations does not relieve the PTO from its duty to consider the submitted foreign language documents (37 CFR §1.98 and MPEP §609). English language abstracts are attached for documents A1-A3.

Applicant respectfully requests that any listed document be considered by the Examiner and be made of record in the present application and that an initialed copy of Form PTO-1449 be returned in accordance with MPEP §609.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by a check being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 19-0741.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: January 3, 2002

FOLEY & LARDNER
Customer Number: 22428

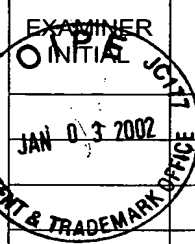


22428

PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

Telephone: (202) 672-5407
Facsimile: (202) 672-5399

By Aaron C. Cratty
for David A. Blumenthal Reg # 41,398
Attorney for Applicant
Registration No. 26,257

Form PTO-1449 (MODIFIED)		U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE		ATTY. DOCKET NO. 017661-0180		SERIAL NO. 09/978,539	
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION <i>(Use several sheets if necessary)</i>				APPLICANT Yushi NIWA			
				FILING DATE 10/18/2001		GROUP ART UNIT 2131	
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
	REF	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB- CLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						RECEIVED JAN 07 2002 Group 2100	
REF	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUB- CLASS	TRANSLATION YES NO	
A1	2000-184087	06/30/2000	Japan	~		Abstract	
A2	11-96237	04/09/1999	Japan			Abstract	
A3	10-269078	10/09/1998	Japan			Abstract	
OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)							
EXAMINER				DATE CONSIDERED			
* EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include any copy of this form with next communication to applicant.							